



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Translation

Applicant's or agent's file reference 190-S03P0646	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/JP2003/006727	International filing date (day/month/year) 29 May 2003 (29.05.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 30 May 2002 (30.05.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 17/60		
Applicant SONY CORPORATION		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.</p>
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p>

Date of submission of the demand 25 September 2003 (25.09.2003)	Date of completion of this report 23 June 2004 (23.06.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/006727

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☐ the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the claims:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the drawings:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-18	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Documents cited in the ISR:

Document 1: WO, 99-61995, A (Bandai Co., Ltd.), 2 December, 1999 (02.12.99), & TW, 453087, B, & AU, 3850799, A, & EP, 0997827, A1

Document 2: JP, 2000-235605, A (NCR International Inc.), 29 August, 2000 (29.08.00), & GB, 9902480, A0, & EP, 1026607, A2

Document 3: JP, 2002-91450, A (Neo Reality Co., Ltd.), 27 March, 2002 (27.03.02) (Family: none)

Document 4: JP, 2002-63092, A (K.K. Tomy), 28 February, 2002 (28.02.02) (Family: none)

Claims 1, 6-13 and 15-18

Documents 1 and 2

Document 1 describes (1) that cartoon characters are selected at terminals, (2) that cartoon character display data and schedule files are downloaded from a second server, and (3) that information files are downloaded from a third server indicated in schedule files.

Document 1 describes matters that correspond to a means of storage and a means of image data transmission in claim 1.

As described in document 2 ([0030]-[0032]), a technology of selecting an appropriate cartoon character according to the attributes of the user is well known.

In addition, downloading an information file from a third server indicated in a schedule file means downloading contents related to a cartoon character, so the means of selecting contents of claim 1 could have easily been conceived of from document 1.

Accordingly, a person skilled in the art could have easily conceived of the subject matter of claim 1 in view of cited documents 1 and 2.

Similarly, a person skilled in the art could have easily conceived of the subject matters of claims 3, 6-13 and 15-18 in view of cited documents 1 and 2.

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of : V.2

Claim 2

Documents 1-3

The schedule file in document 1 is recognized to be a kind of user feature information. In addition, as mentioned in documents 2 and 3, choosing contents based on the user features is well known.

Claim 3

Documents 1-3

Document 3 (paragraph [0015]) describes that "pieces of music or images for which a user 1 provides execution instructions or that Mr. DJ chooses and arranges are evaluated to use for selection of pieces of music in the future."

Accordingly a person skilled in the art could have easily conceived the subject matter of claim 3 in view of cited documents 1-3.

Claim 4

Documents 1-3

A charging technology for contents are well known, and a person skilled in the art could have easily decided charging for contents as a matter of design variation as required.

Claims 14 and 15

Documents 1-4

A feature wherein identification information is read from an object holding such information, a feature wherein identification information is transmitted, and a feature wherein image data to display an image that corresponds to the appearance of an object is received, are described in document 4.